

STAND!

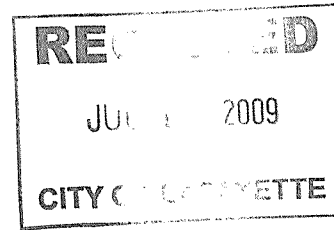
Against Domestic Violence SM

Formerly Battered Women's Alternatives

Central 925.676.2845
East 925.757.8101
West 510.236.8972
Crisis 1.888.215.5555
www.standagainstdv.org

June 30, 2009

Mayor Don Tatzin
City of Lafayette
3675 Mt. Diablo Blvd #210
Lafayette, CA 94549



Dear Mayor Tatzin:

STAND! Against Domestic Violence would be honored if you would sponsor an official proclamation recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and supporting our agency's efforts to end this crime. This action will emphasize your city's commitment to this important cause and acknowledge the efforts of those who work to end violence in our homes and communities every month of the year.

During October, **STAND!** will host a series of activities to educate our citizens about domestic violence. Our hope is that those we reach will embrace prevention efforts and honor victims. Our activities encourage both perpetrators and the abused to seek the help they need.

I have enclosed a sample proclamation and information describing current **STAND!** activities. **STAND!** activities during Domestic Violence Awareness Month will include the **17th Annual Rebuilding Lives Luncheon to be held at the Concord Hilton, 1970 Diamond Boulevard, Concord, on Thursday, October 22, 2009.** The *Rebuilding Lives Luncheon* annually draws over 400 community and corporate leaders who are concerned about domestic violence. **This year's event will feature a keynote address by Robin Givens, actress, writer, and domestic violence survivor.** We will display and acknowledge all proclamations and letters of support at the luncheon. If your budget will allow, **STAND!** would welcome the attendance of a representative from your office. You will receive an invitation to this event in a separate mailing. Alternatively, you may call me at **STAND!** for event information (925-603-0138).

Please issue a proclamation no later than September 30, 2009 to allow time for framing and display at the October 22nd luncheon. We would be pleased to send a **STAND!** representative to personally accept the proclamation if desired. Alternatively, you may send the proclamation to my attention at **STAND!**'s Concord office.

I look forward to your response to our request (925-603-0138). In the meantime, thank you for your previous support of **STAND!** and for sharing our commitment to end domestic violence.

Sincerely,

Patti Link Cawood
Fundraising Manager
Enclosure



CITY COUNCIL

Don Tatzin, Mayor
Brandt Andersson, Vice Mayor
Mike Anderson, Council Member
Carl Anduri, Council Member
Carol Federighi, Council Member

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, violence against women and children continues to become more prevalent as a social problem due to the imbalance of power in gender and age; and

WHEREAS, the problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people but cross all economic, racial, affectional preference and societal barriers and are supported by societal indifference; and

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and/or abuse; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, directly affect men, women and children and society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, it is battered women themselves who have been in the forefront of efforts to bring peace and equality to the home; and

WHEREAS, residents of Contra Costa County should feel safe in their homes, their schools, and their communities; and

WHEREAS, STAND! Against Domestic Violence provides domestic violence services to families and individuals in Contra Costa County, serving over 10,000 clients annually; and

WHEREAS, STAND! Against Domestic Violence is a multi-service agency providing: 24-hour crisis line, emergency and transitional shelter, legal advocacy, children and teen programs, counseling, support groups, employment training, batterer's treatment program, and educational prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, STAND! Against Domestic Violence works to raise awareness through education, so individuals will become advocates, and will take action to end violence in their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on behalf of the Lafayette City Council I hereby proclaim October 2009 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all citizens to actively participate in the efforts to end violence in our homes, in our schools and in our communities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the City of Lafayette this 13th day of July, 2009.

Don Tatzin, Mayor



It all started in 1977 with one phone line in a utility closet staffed by a handful of dedicated volunteers with an enduring passion—to provide refuge for women and children fleeing violent relationships.

Three decades later **STAND! Against Domestic Violence** is a major force for change. The sole provider of comprehensive domestic violence services in Contra Costa County, STAND! boasts over 60 staff and 150 volunteers who operate a full range of services for families rebuilding their lives in the tragic wake of domestic violence.

STAND! provides families with **HELP, HEALING** and **HOPE.**

Domestic violence is learned behavior. One generation teaches the next it is okay to be abusive and to solve problems with violence. They in turn teach another generation and they teach another...it's a vicious cycle of abuse.

STAND! Against Domestic Violence works to stop the cycle by confronting violence. We offer:

Help during the crisis

Dedicated to violence-free homes for every family in Contra Costa County, STAND! provides:

- 24-hour, toll-free Crisis Line
- Emergency shelter for families fleeing violent homes
- Transitional housing program
- Legal advocacy program

Healing after the crisis

Because domestic violence touches every aspect of a family's life, STAND! offers a holistic approach to healing through:

- Support groups
- Individual counseling for adults and children
- A treatment program for those who abuse

Hope so that the crisis never occurs

Committed to advancing long-term solutions to the epidemic of domestic violence, STAND! works tirelessly to create awareness in the community through our:

- Speaker's Bureau
- Training for medical, law enforcement and faith communities
- Award-winning Youth Relationship Violence Prevention Program

STAND! leads the community in ending domestic violence and rebuilding lives.





Catalina

CATALINA

"I don't know if I'd be alive if it wasn't for STAND!"

Catalina had suffered excruciating mental, physical and emotional abuse at the hands of her former partner. After a near fatal public attack, Catalina found the courage to call STAND!. She spent nearly two years in STAND!'s Margaret Leshner Center. "MLC was a sanctuary for me and my family. It was our little corner where we could begin to heal."

Catalina is now an advocate, speaking out on a variety of women's issues. Domestic violence work still takes center stage. "I give back because of what I received. If we don't focus on changing society, we will never be free of violence."

PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS – NO ONE DESERVES TO BE ABUSED.

When a fight breaks out:

- Move away from the kitchen, bathroom or any place where there are dangerous sharp objects.
- Plan the easiest escape. Decide on a door or window to exit quickly and safely.
- Find a neighbor, friend or family member you can trust to help you with your children or to call the police for you.

If you decide to leave your partner, plan for safety:

- Put some money away. Even if you can only save a little bit each week.
- Make copies of your keys and important papers and leave them with a friend, neighbor or a house of worship.
- If your partner is dangerous, tell someone at work to call 911 if he/she comes to your workplace.

Every situation is different!

Leaving may be risky for you and your children. Contact us for information on how to plan for safety.

Become a STAND! volunteer

Volunteers are the very heart of STAND!. They skillfully and compassionately contribute to every aspect of STAND!'s work.

Susan Nisbet, Crisis Line Volunteer, 8 years

"I have a passion for working for women. The most rewarding thing about volunteering for STAND! is helping the client feel connected. I talk to them, and at the end I can literally hear a change in their voice—that's very rewarding and enriching."

Linda Graniero, STAND! Speaker's Bureau Volunteer, 17 years

"Volunteering for STAND has been my life mission for so long. If I can get through to just ONE woman to help her decide to gather her courage and make the break from the abusive relationship, I have done the job that I was put here to do."

Dennis Henry, Crisis Line Volunteer and STAND! Board of Directors, 2 years

"Several times I picked up a client and her child at BART who were fleeing a violent situation at home. I will never forget the images of the mother and child, each with one suitcase. One suitcase apiece to start a new life. It's an incredible experience to be able to help someone by doing something so basic."

**To learn more about how you can take a STAND!
and volunteer, call 925-676-2845.**



In 2000 **1,247** women were killed by an intimate partner.
**Everyday in the United States more than three women are
murdered by their husbands or boyfriends**

Studies suggest that up to **10 million**
children **witness some form of domestic violence annually**

"When we give to STAND!, we know we are helping to save lives and make the community a safer place. We can't think of a better investment."

~ Carol and Bert Hughes, STAND! Donors 9 years

"We donate to STAND! to create a haven for women to find the safety and peace my mother never did."

~ Susan and Dave Woodhouse, STAND! Donors 10 years

Take a STAND!

You too can help STAND! save thousands of women and families by making a generous contribution today.

Visit

www.standagainstdv.org

today to make a secure online donation

Or

mail in a donation using the form below to:

STAND! Against Domestic Violence

1410 Danzig Plaza, Suite 200 • Concord, CA 94520

Yes, I'd like to help STAND!

Enclosed is my gift in the amount of: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$50
☐ \$500 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other _____

Please charge my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Today's Date _____

☐ My company will match my gift ☐ Matching Gift form or letter enclosed

☐ I wish to remain anonymous

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

STAND! business number: 925-676-2845 STAND! toll-free crisis line: 1-888-215-5555

STAND! does not sell or exchange our mailing list. Please make checks payable to STAND!

RELATIONSHIP CHECKLIST

People of any gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or faith can be abused.

Here are some questions to ask yourself:

Are you . . .

- ☐ Frightened by or verbally abused by your partner?
- ☐ Afraid to disagree with your partner?
- ☐ Often apologizing for your partner's behavior?
- ☐ Isolated from your friends or family because of his/her jealousy?
- ☐ Afraid to break up with your partner because he/she has threatened to hurt you or himself/herself?

Do you . . .

- ☐ Feel like you must justify things you do or don't do to avoid your partner's anger?

Have you ever been . . .

- ☐ Hit, shoved, thrown down, choked, grabbed or had things thrown at you?
- ☐ Forced to perform any sexual acts against your will?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, it is time to check your relationship.

Call STAND!'s 24-hour hotline at 1-888-215-5555.

ROBIN

"Without STAND!, my children would be motherless and I would be another statistic."

After a long history of violent relationships, a bruised and exhausted Robin came to STAND!'s emergency shelter looking for safety for herself and her three children. What she found at STAND! was the support her family needed to rebuild their lives. Robin shares her family's experiences with the community at speaking engagements and events encouraging others with their story of survival and triumph.

"The healing process was long. Along the way there were plateaus, but as long as you keep moving forward, you will eventually get there."



Robin's Family (from left to right): Breanna, Malyssa, Robin and B.J.

"If it takes the last breath in my body, my girls will not be in my situation and my son will not become a batterer."

As many as **324,000** women each year experience intimate partner violence during pregnancy.